

thank them for their service. We cannot thank our veterans enough for putting their lives on the line when America's security demanded it.

The Honor Flight veterans, in alphabetical order, are as follows: Robert Anderson, Ray Anderson, Arlie Asmussen, Robert Bailey, Albert Barber, Raymond Baumgart, Rudolph Becker, Robert Benz, Edmund Bouvette, Tom Brady, Mark Breuer, Thomas Briggs, Don Brommer, Robert Camp, Robert Carlson, Ralph Christensen, Maynard Christiansen, Elmer Cohlman, Hobart Cole, Leonard Conrad, Cloyd Conroy, Burdell Coplan, Stanley Dahl, Earl Dains, Harland Danielsen, Howard Daugaard, Lyle Davis, Charles Dawes, William Degler, Mildred Diekman, Dale Dieltz, Delmer Dooley, Merle Driggs, Clair Ellingson, Harry Erickson, Edward Erlandson, Gerald Erlandson, John Erlandson, Orwin Fodness, Howard Franey, Kenneth Freeman, Harvey Glover, Fred Gorter, Peter Gortmaker, Kenneth Gregersen, Emmett Guthmiller, Donald Haan, Keith Hagerman, Glen Hansen, Paul Harris, James Harris, Kenneth Harthoorn, Harold Hatting, Raymond Heger, Richard Hempel, Dale Hendricks, Fay Hendricks, Noel Henrichs, Orville Hill, Verlyn Hill, Eugene Hoekman, Walter Holtkamp, Claude Hone, George Huizenga, Harry Irwin, Albert Jager, Louis Jarding, Roland Jensen, Arden Jensen, Ervin Jensen, Ralph Johnshoy, Billy Jones, Erland Juntunen, John Kagel, William Kerr, Alfred Knaack, Ralph Kock, Hampton Lane, Fred Lassle, Cleone Lauer, Eugene Lauer, Howard Lee, John Lewis, Howard Livingston, Richard Luther, Duane Lyman, Morris Magnuson, William Merrill, Norbert Miles, Quentin Miles, Duane Miller, John Miller, Kareen Millis, David Moore, James Moore, James Morton, Harold Muetzel, Howard Opheim, Arnold Pederson, Delbert Petersen, Wayne Pool, Wade Pringle, Roy Radloff, Vernon Ramesbotham, Carl Renz, Kenneth Salisbury, Gerald Sanborn, Ray Schmitz, Ronald Scott, Lloyd Seger, Thomas Simpson, Lowell Stagebert, Herman Ulrich, Robert Van Ningen, Frances Vanderbush, Ivan Vitek, Steven Wachtel, George Wagner, Eugene Weidenbach, John Wilds, Robert Williams, and Ernest Zimbelman.

It gives me great pleasure to honor those who have defended our freedom and to recognize the service and sacrifice of these courageous South Dakotans who served during World War II. I am proud that they were able to see the memorial that was built in their honor.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1728. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to provide certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1728. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to provide certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 515, a bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform (Rept. No. 111-18).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

*Neal S. Wolin, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

By Mr. AKAKA for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*John U. Sepulveda, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources).

*Jose D. Riojas, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Security, and Preparedness).

*William A. Gunn, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Roger W. Baker, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Information and Technology).

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1020. A bill to optimize the delivery of critical care medicine and expand the critical care workforce; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. 1021. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an enhanced credit for research and development by companies that manufacture products in the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. INOUE, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BURRIS, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1022. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a graduate degree loan repayment program for nurses who become nursing school faculty members; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. REID):

S. 1023. A bill to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1024. A bill to authorize appropriations for the design, acquisition, and construction of a combined buoy tender-icebreaker to replace icebreaking capacity on the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1025. A bill to prohibit termination of employment of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel responding to emergencies or major disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 1026. A bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve procedures for the collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed service voters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 142. A resolution designating July 25, 2009, as "National Day of the American Cowboy"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BURR, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 143. A resolution designating May 15, 2009, as "National MPS Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. Res. 144. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's Health Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. Res. 145. A resolution designating the week of May 17 through May 23, 2009, as "National Public Works Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BYRD:

S. Res. 146. A resolution commending South Charleston, West Virginia, for celebrating its 50th annual Armed Forces Day on May 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. Res. 147. A resolution to designate the week beginning on the second Saturday in May as National Travel and Tourism Week; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 141

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to limit the misuse of Social Security numbers, to establish criminal penalties for such misuse, and for other purposes.

S. 144

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 144, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove cell phones from listed property under section 280F.

S. 369

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 369, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market.

S. 451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 451, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

S. 461

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. THUNE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, *supra*.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. THUNE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 581

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 581, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require the exclusion of combat pay from income for purposes of determining eligibility for child nutrition programs and the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children.

S. 597

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 614

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 614, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots ("WASP").

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 663, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine

(including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

S. 696

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to include a definition of fill material.

S. 718

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 718, a bill to amend the Legal Services Corporation Act to meet special needs of eligible clients, provide for technology grants, improve corporate practices of the Legal Services Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 731

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 731, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for continuity of TRICARE Standard coverage for certain members of the Retired Reserve.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 812, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 819

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 819, a bill to provide for enhanced treatment, support, services, and research for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

S. 832

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 832, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Muhammad Yunus, in recognition of his contributions to the fight against global poverty.

S. 850

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 850, a bill to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to improve the conservation of sharks.